

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. These sheets replace the original sheets including Fig. 1-2. In Fig. 1, a legend "Prior Art" has been added. In Fig. 2, the structure designated as "7" is now designated as "16." No new matter is believed to be involved and therefore entry of the replacement sheet is respectfully requested.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Review and reconsideration of the subject application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was objected to because the term "this feeding unit (30)" was improperly recited. Claim 1 has been amended to recite "this control unit (30)." Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6, and, 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yatsuyanagi et al (JP 08-025117). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons. Yatsuyanagi does not disclose "a control unit (30) that is electrically connected to the feeding unit, this feeding unit comprising at least a first control (33) for manual influence of the feeding motor's (17) feeding force," as required by claim 1. Paragraphs 2-3 and 16-18 of the specification describe that the drill automatically feeds slowly into the drilling object, and then feeds faster into the working object so that the drill head does not easily slide sideways when it comes into contact with the drilling object. The feeding velocity of the feeding motor 17 is set to a specified value by turning second control 34. The drill then operates automatically at an initial force to make just enough of a penetration in the drilling object. The operator can turn off the drill and then apply a force from the drill onto the drilling object. When the operator determines that the drill has sufficiently penetrated into the drilling object, the operator sets the drill to automatically drill at a faster velocity. This process is distinctly different from starting at a fully manual state of operation

using the manual feeding handle and later switching to automatic as described in Yatsuyanagi.

Yatsuyanagi describes a drill assembly that allows the operator to start a drilling cycle with the drill being fully manually-controlled, and then automatically controlled. Yatsuyanagi describes a boring assembly 6 used to machine the sides of a precut hole 32. When a core drill reaches the surface to be drilled without a precut hole, one side of the drill usually reaches the surface first. The specification of Yatsuyanagi states "the manual delivery handle 9 is rotated," which means that the first cut is accomplished with manual feeding. Therefore the drill tends to move sideways. In Yatsuyanagi, this problem has been dealt with by the operator manual feeding the drill. When a cut circle has been established for the core drill, the operator switches to a manual setting, which makes the drilling much faster than without a cut circle. Yatsuyanagi does not teach all of the elements of claim 1. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-5, 7, and 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yatsuyanagi et al (JP 08-025117). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons. As set forth above, Yatsuyanagi fails to teach or suggest every limitation of claim 1. Accordingly, one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would not arrive at the core-drilling device described in claim 1. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application. If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. ABE1-41411.

Respectfully submitted,

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